

New Hampshire's Floodplain and Related Regulations

State Program (Permitting Agency)	Applicable Areas	Summary of General and Related Regulations to Floodplains	Web Site Address and Contact Information
Alteration of Terrain Program (NH DES)	<p>Project disturbs more than 100,000 square feet of contiguous terrain.</p> <p>Project disturbs 50,000 square feet within the Protected Shoreland.</p> <p>Project disturbs an area having a grade of 25 percent or greater within 50 feet of any surface water.</p>	<p>Applies to earth moving operations, such as industrial, commercial, and residential developments as well as sand pits, gravel pits, and rock quarries.</p> <p>Permits are issued after a technical review of the application, which includes the project plans (showing the limits of the 100-year floodplain) and supporting documents. A supplementary report is required for all projects proposed within the 100-year floodplain (as shown on FEMA's floodplain maps). A hydraulic analysis is required for certain projects in the 100-year floodplain to determine any adverse impact will occur as a result of the development.</p>	<p>www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/aot</p> <p>Phone: (603) 271-3434</p>
Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act (NH DES)	<p>The Protected Shoreland is the area within 250 feet of the reference line of applicable waterbodies.</p>	<p>Permit requirements for most new construction, excavation, and filling activities within the Protected Shoreland that must meet certain setbacks and area requirements.</p>	<p>www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/cspa</p> <p>Phone: (603) 271-2147 Email: shoreland@des.nh.gov</p>
Dam Bureau and Dam Removal & River Res- toration Program (NH DES)	<p>Statewide dams</p>	<p>Regulates the repair, reconstruction, maintenance, and operation of existing dams, reviews design plans and issues decisions for the construction, operation, and maintenance of new dams. Regulates the retention and/or release of stored water to support a variety of uses including flood flow management and mitigation for both public and private purposes.</p> <p>Permitting requirements for dam removals. If the dam provides any flood control benefits, the floodplain impacts of the removal must be addressed.</p>	<p><u>Dam Safety Bureau</u> www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dam Phone: (603) 271-3406 Email: damsafety@des.nh.gov</p> <p><u>Dam Removal & River Restoration Program</u> www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dam/damremoval Deborah Loiselle, River Restoration Coordinator Phone: (603) 271-3406 Email: deborah.loiselle@des.nh.gov</p>

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National Flood Insurance Program Regulations (Community) <i>Technical Assistance provided by NH OEP</i>	All development located in a Special Flood Hazard Area (100-year floodplain) as shown on FEMA's floodplain maps.	Communities that participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) must adopt and enforce the minimum floodplain regulations required under the Program. Many NH communities adopt and enforce regulations that go beyond the minimum requirements such as compensatory storage or prohibition of floodplain development. The minimum regulations detail the requirements for all development located in a special flood hazard area. Many of the NFIP requirements are also contained in the State Building Code.	www.nh.gov/oep/programs/floodplainmanagement Jennifer Gilbert, Floodplain Management Coordinator NH Office of Energy & Planning Phone: (603) 271-1762 Email: jennifer.gilbert@nh.gov
State Building Code (Community or State Fire Marshal)	All buildings in New Hampshire, including one- and two-family dwellings.	The State Building Code consists of the 2009 International Building Code (IBC) and the 2009 International Residential Code (IRC). The IBC regulates the design and construction of all buildings, except one- and two-family dwellings and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) not more than three stories and with a separate means of egress, which are regulated by the IRC. Both the IBC and IRC include many of the NFIP requirements.	www.nh.gov/safety/boardsandcommissions/bldgcode/nhstatebldgcode.html Local building code official. If there is none, State Fire Marshal's Office at (603) 271-3294.
Stream Crossings (NH DES)	All stream crossings with some exceptions including drainage swales or ephemeral streams, normal agricultural operations, construction or maintenance of farm or forest roads, etc.	Design and construction criteria for applicable stream crossings based on the stream's tier classification. If the crossing is located on a watercourse that is within the 100-year floodplain it is considered a Tier 3 crossing and must comply with the applicable requirements.	www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/streams_crossings.htm Phone: (603) 271-2147

Brochure created by the Floodplain Management Program at the NH Office of Energy and Planning
Please note this may not be a complete list of all the regulations required for a development/project.

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Subsurface Systems Bureau (NH DES)	Any proposed subdivision of land and design of individual septic systems .	Design rules for subdivision and individual septic systems. A plan for subdivision approval and individual septic systems requires showing the location of any part of the property/lot that lies within a Special Flood Hazard Area as shown on FEMA's floodplain maps. Information required to be submitted for individual sewage disposal systems within a Special Flood Hazard Area includes a statement signed by the applicant certifying that the plan conforms to the requirements of the NFIP.	www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/ssb/index.htm Phone: (603) 271-3501
Wetlands Bureau (NH DES)	Freshwater and coastal wetlands, surface waters and their banks, dunes, the tidal buffer zone and areas adjacent to state designated prime wetlands.	Regulates wetland impacts. For any project that impacts more than 10,000 square feet of wetlands, the applicant is required to provide compensatory mitigation.	www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands Phone: (603) 271-2147

State and Federal Executive Orders Related to Floodplain Areas

State Executive Order 96-4	All development located in a Special Flood Hazard Area (100-year floodplain) as shown on FEMA's floodplain maps.	This state order requires all State agencies to comply with the floodplain management requirements of all local communities participating in the NFIP in which state-owned properties are located.	www.nh.gov/oep/programs/floodplainmanagement/regulations/documents/executive_order_96-4.pdf
Federal Executive Order 11988	All development located in a Special Flood Hazard Area (100-year floodplain) as shown on FEMA's floodplain maps.	This federal order requires federal agencies to avoid, to the extent possible, the long and short-term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains and to avoid direct and indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative. Includes guidelines that address an eight-step process that agencies should carry out as part of their decision-making on projects that have potential impacts to or within the floodplain.	www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/ehplaws/eo11988.shtm